

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 QUEBEC 00167 251857Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 DHA-02 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 /084 W

-----260144Z 111957 /70

R 222100Z APR 77

FM AMCONSUL QUEBEC

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 973

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMCONSUL TORONTO

UNCLAS QUEBEC 0167

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CA

SUBJECT: LEVESQUE EXCLUDES NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE REFERENDUM

1. QUEBEC PRIME MINISTER LEVESQUE TOLD NATIONAL ASSEMBLY YESTERDAY THAT HIS GOVERNMENT MUST HAVE "BARGAINING POWER" WHICH ONLY A REFERENDUM EXPRESSING QUEBEC NATIONAL WILL COULD CONFER BEFORE ENGAGING IN CONSTITUTIONAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH OTHER PARTS OF CANADA. HE SAID PQ HAS NOT PROPOSED "PATCH-UP OF FEDERAL SYSTEM" BUT RATHER A WHOLE "NEW DEAL." THIS "NEW DEAL," HE CONTINUED, WOULD INVOLVE AN ASSOCIATION BETWEEN "CIVILIZED PEOPLE." WITHOUT THE NEGOTIATING POWER A REFERENDUM WOULD GIVE, QUEBEC WOULD RISK AGAIN BECOMING ENMESHED IN FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL "GUERRILLA WAR" WHICH COULD POSTPONE THE POLITICAL WISHES OF QUEBEC, THE PRIME MINISTER EXPLAINED.

2. PREPARATIONS ARE NOW UNDERWAY FOR NEGOTIATIONS LEVESQUE POINTED OUT. AS DRAFT OF REFERENDUM LAW PROGRESSES, THE DEFINITION OF A PROPOSAL FOR AN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION WITH CANADA WILL DEVELOP APACE. THIS IS THE PROPOSAL WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORATE IN REFERENDUM.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 QUEBEC 00167 251857Z

3. COMMENT: ABOVE STATEMENT WAS MADE IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION POSED BY LEADER OF UNION NATIONALE, RODRIGUE BIRON, WHO ASKED FOR GOQ'S REACTION TO "NEGOTIATION OVERTURE" HE CLAIMED WAS CONTAINED IN TRUDEAU'S WINNIPEG SPEECH. (WINNIPEG 0137). CLEARLY, LEVESQUE

IS SHOWING SENSITIVITY TO DANGER FROM PQ POINT OF VIEW OF BEING DRAWN INTO CONSTITUTIONAL NEGOTIATION WQTHOUT HAVING MANDATE

AFFORDED BY REFERENDUM TO DEMAND SOVEREIGNTY. HE OBVIOUSLY DREADS  
LOSING INITIATIVE TO TRUDEAU AND BECOMING BOGGED DOWN IN ENDLESS  
FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL NEGOTIATION WHICH WOULD RESULT IN LOSS OF  
MOMENTUM PQ SEES AS ESSENTIAL TO WINNING MAJORITY SUPPORT FOR  
REFERENDUM.  
MCNAMARA

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PROVINCE, SOVEREIGNTY, POLITICAL LEADERS, NEGOTIATIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977QUEBEC00167  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770144-0346  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** QUEBEC  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770429/aaaaaygi.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 97198ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2721253  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LEVESQUE EXCLUDES NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE REFERENDUM  
**TAGS:** PINT, CA, (LEVESQUE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/97198ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009